



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DARRELL V. MCGRAW, JR.
CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION
1-800-368-8808 or 304-558-8986

Press Release

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CONTACT: Jill Miles or Derek Walker
304-558-8986
1-800-368-8808

**ATTORNEY GENERAL DARRELL MCGRAW PROVIDES
FREE LEGAL ADVICE AT THE CHARLESTON TOWN CENTER
FOR NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK**

West Virginia Attorney General Darrell McGraw joins national advocacy organizations, and federal, state and local governmental agencies in launching the sixth annual National Consumer Protection Week, February 1-7. Lawyers from McGraw's Office will offer free legal advice at the Charleston Town Center during Consumer Protection Week.

If you are in debt, about to refinance your home, or believe you have been a victim of a consumer scam, lawyers from the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division will be available for free consultations this week at the Charleston Town Center near the Court Street entrance from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. Issues the attorneys can give free legal advice on, include but are not limited to, credit card fraud, predatory lending, telemarketing scams, home improvement complaints, warranties, and identity theft. If consumers cannot make it to the Town Center Mall, they can call the Consumer Protection Division's toll-free hotline at 1-800-368-8808 for free legal advice on consumer issues. Consumer Protection Week kicks off free legal advice clinics for consumers around the state. Announcements will be forthcoming for legal clinics in other counties.

General McGraw said, "Whether you're shopping for groceries, applying for a mortgage, or comparing retirement or health insurance plans, every financial decision has an impact on your quality of life. Take the time to learn before you leap, forewarned is forearmed."

During National Consumer Protection Week, representatives from federal, state and local agencies and national advocacy organizations will help consumers of all ages to understand how the decisions they make in the marketplace affect their overall fiscal fitness.

Organizers of this year's National Consumer Protection Week are the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the Federal Citizen Information Center (FCIC), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), the U.S. Postal Inspection Service (USPIS), the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators (NACAA), the National Consumers League (NCL), AARP, the Better Business Bureau (BBB), the Consumer Federation of America (CFA), and the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG).

West Virginia's Attorney General is proud to be a partner in sharing the message of the sixth annual National Consumer Protection Week campaign. "Our goal is to educate consumers and help them make smart financial decisions," says McGraw.

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